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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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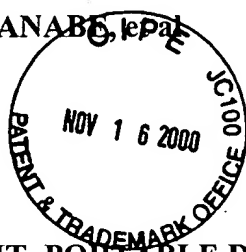
In re Application of: Katsuhito KANABE, et al

Serial No.: 09/650,759

Filed: August 30, 2000

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: EXPANSION UNIT, PORTABLE DATA PROCESSING
APPARATUS AND IMAGING DEVICE



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Director of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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November 16, 2000

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of the document is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56. The document listed on the Form PTO-1449 is based on Japan Laid Open No. 11-232044 and is copending Patent Application Serial No. 09/639,722, filed August 16, 2000.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN, HATTORI,
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